

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 026869
ORIGIN DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-11 FMC-01
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SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /147 R

DRAFTED BY D/LOS:ABERLIND/GTAFT:AD
APPROVED BY S/AR:ELRICHARDSON
EUR/RPE:WRSALISBURY
EA/J:SECTON

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R 012011Z PEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 026869

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: GROUP OF FIVE MEETING, MOSCOW, JANUARY 25-27,
1978

BEGIN SUMMARY: GROUP OF FIVE (US, USSR, FRANCE, UK AND
JAPAN) MET IN MOSCOW JANUARY 25-27 FOR PLENARY AND EXPERT
CONSULTATIONS COVERING PROCEDURAL MATTERS AND ISSUES ARISING
OUT OF ICNT TEXTS ON COMMITTEE I AND II AND DISPUTE
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SETTLEMENT MATTERS. RESULT WAS A MIXTURE OF SOLID AGREEMENT
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THAT FURTHER THOUGHT NEEDED ON UTILITY AND COMPOSITION OF
NEGOTIATING GROUPS. GROUP HEARD US REPORT OF SRI LANKAN
GOVERNMENT REFUSAL TO KEEP AMERASINGHE ON ITS DELEGATION AND
AGREED TO SUPPORT HIS RETENTION IN PRESIDENCY ON BASIS OF

CLEAR ACQUIESCENCE BY HIS GOVERNMENT. ALTHOUGH USSR SOFTER THAN OTHERS, G-5 AGREED THAT ACCEPTABLE SEABED MINING TEXT IS ESSENTIAL TO A TREATY. MODIFIED TEXTS WILL BE PREPARED FOR FURTHER G-5 CONSIDERATION AT INTERSESSIONALS. GROUP WENT HALF-WAY TOWARD MEETING SOVIET DESIRE FOR CHANGES INTENDED TO CLARIFY HIGH SEAS CHARACTER OF EEZ BUT BALKED AT RADICAL CHANGES THAT MIGHT UPSET REASONABLY SATISFACTORY ICNT PROVISIONS. US AND USSR HAD SERIOUS DIFFERENCES WITH UK AND FRANCE ON NEED TO HELP LL/GDS, ESPECIALLY AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, IN CONJUNCTION WITH EFFORT TO GET THEIR SUPPORT FOR AN EQUITABLE SEABEDS REGIME. UK AND FRANCE LEANED HEAVILY ON EC COMPETENCE IN FISHERIES MATTERS AND ONLY RELUCTANTLY AGREED TO DISCUSS LL/GDS PROBLEM AT FUTURE DATE. US AND JAPAN RESISTED SOVIET EFFORT TO EXEMPT SALMON DISPUTES FROM ADJUDICATION. US STATED ITS DISSATISFACTION WITH MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PROVISIONS OF ICNT AND ITS INTENTION TO SEEK CHANGES. FINALLY, G-5 RESPONDED FAVORABLY TO US PLEA FOR CONTINUED RESTRAINT ON MUTUAL CRITICISM OUTSIDE OF THE GROUP, SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCES ASIDE. END SUMMARY.

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5. DEFINITION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF. EXPERTS OF THE USSR, WHICH HAS SUPPORTED A FORMULA FOR DEFINING THE OUTER EDGE BY THE 200 MILE LIMIT OR THE 500 METER ISOBATH, SUGGESTED THAT CONSIDERATION OUGHT TO BE GIVEN TO THE POSSIBILITY OF A FORMULA WHEREBY THE LIMIT WOULD BE SET AT 200 NAUTICAL MILES OR AT THE FOOT OF THE SLOPE PROVIDED IT WAS NO MORE THAN PERHAPS 50 MILES BEYOND 200 MILES. THE UK, FRANCE AND THE US SUPPORTED THE IRISH FORMULA. THE JAPANESE OPPOSED 500 METERS AND THE IRISH FORMULA BUT DID NOT COMMENT ON THE SOVIET FORMULA.

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Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
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